

SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE
YEAR
1952.

SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor E. W. Elmore. (Chairman of the Council.)
Councillor A. Craven. (Chairman of the Committee.)
Councillor S. S. Williams.
Councillor W. Rudkin.
Councillor F. Gostick.
Councillor L. Buttler.
Councillor J. W. Dick.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

John W. Scholey, M.B., Ch.B.

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER.

T. E. Dagwell, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors'
Examination Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and
Other Foods.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as
applied to Buildings and Public Works.

HOUSING OFFICER'S ASSISTANT
AND CLERK TO THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

H. G. Battram.

12, Market Place,
SLEAFORD,
Lincs.

4th November 1953.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1952.

The general health of this community has remained good and there has been no major outbreak of serious infectious disease. Unfortunately there was a minor outbreak of Puerperal Fever at the Laundon Nursing Home and as several of the Nursing Staff were found to be possible carriers it was decided to temporarily close the Home as a safety measure. I am pleased to say that the measures taken were evidently satisfactory as no further case of Puerperal Fever has occurred there since. It does emphasize, however, the constant care in asepsis which is necessary to prevent further outbreaks of similar infections.

I am pleased to say that during the past year no cases of food poisoning were notified. I feel sure that in spite of this there are probably mild cases occurring who never seek advice or treatment from their Doctor. The standard of hygiene in the preparation and sale of food in this country still leaves much to be desired.

The completion of new houses has progressed steadily but the cost of the houses necessitates high rents which are a very real problem to many occupants. At long last the upward trend of prices seems to be steady.

I would like to thank all members of the staff, the Clerk to the Council, and members of the Council for their help and encouragement in my work.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN W. SCHOLEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres.	4,549.
Population - 1951 census.	7,282.
- Registrar General's Estimate, 30.6.52.	7,108.
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book.	2,280.
Number of new houses completed during the year.	47.
Rateable value as at 1st October 1952.	£51,102.
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£205.

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>BIRTHS.</u>		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Live Births.</u>	Legitimate.	66	52	118
	Illegitimate.	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
		69	53	122

		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Still Births.</u>	Legitimate.	5	1	6
	Illegitimate.	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
		6	1	7

Birth Rates.

	1951.	1952.
Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population.	15.82	17.16
Birth Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population.	15.66	16.99
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population. (England and Wales)	15.5	15.3
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.	0.14	0.98

DEATHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Number of deaths.	51.	51.	102.
Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population.	15.82	14.35	
Death Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population.	14.45	13.20	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population. (England and Wales)	12.5	11.3	

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Number of Deaths - Legitimate.	1	4	5
Illegitimate.	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	1	4	5
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Death Rate per 1,000 live births.

Death Rate per 1,000 live births,
(England and Wales.)

1951.	1952.
8.13	40.98
29.6	27.6

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
All Causes.	51	51	102
Respiratory Tuberculosis.	2	0	2
Other Tuberculosis.	0	1	1
Syphilitic Disease.	0	0	0
Diphtheria.	0	0	0
Whooping Cough.	0	0	0
Meningococcal infections.	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis.	0	0	0
Measles.	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	0	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	0	0	0
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	3	2	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	0	2	2
Diabetes.	1	0	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	6	8	14
Coronary disease, angina.	10	6	16
Hyper-tension with heart disease.	0	0	0
Other heart disease.	14	13	27
Other circulatory disease.	4	3	7
Influenza.	0	0	0
Pneumonia.	0	2	2
Bronchitis.	1	0	1
Other diseases of respiratory system.	2	0	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	0	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	0	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis.	0	0	0
Hyper-plasia of prostate.	0	0	0
Pregnancy, child-birth, abortion.	0	1	1
Congenital malformations.	0	1	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases.	1	6	7
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	0	1
All other accidents.	0	0	0
Suicide.	1	0	1
Homicide and operations of war.	0	0	0

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Infectious Disease Hospital.

No infectious disease hospital is provided within the Urban District and arrangements are made as necessary for cases requiring hospital treatment to be admitted into hospitals in the adjoining areas.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Lincoln. Water samples are sent to the Public Analyst, Mr. W. W. Taylor, 1, Regent Street, Nottingham, when both chemical and bacteriological examinations are required.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 151 cases of infectious disease were notified :-

Whooping Cough	92
Measles	29
Scarlet Fever	17
Puerperal Pyrexia	8
Erysipelas	4
Pneumonia	1

Food Poisoning.

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948/51.

Section 47.

One case arose during the year in which it was found necessary to take action under this section.

It concerned an old man who had been ejected from his house and who was living under overcrowded circumstances with relations. He was in need of medical treatment which could not be readily given where he was living. He was therefore removed in accordance with the provisions of the 1951 Act for three weeks. At the end of this period he agreed to remain in hospital and was subsequently removed to a hospital for the chronic sick.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1 9 5 2.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my fifth annual report on the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year ending 31st December 1952.

New houses became available during the year on the Galley Hill Estate in a much larger number than the previous two years and the overall improvement in the housing conditions of those inadequately housed has been quite considerable, the average waiting time of persons on the list having now been reduced.

The work of the Department continues to be focussed principally on the management of the Councils' Estates and on Meat Inspection. Both of these duties are increasing.

I have to thank the Council for their support, the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk of the Council, and the other members of the staff, in particular those of my own Department, for their assistance and co-operation during the past year.

T. E. DAGWELL.

Sanitary Inspector & Housing Officer.

November 1953.

THE SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

During the year 26 complaints have been investigated and 4,820 inspections and re-inspections have been made. These are detailed as follows :-

Dwelling Houses.

Primary inspections under the Housing Act.	2
Primary inspections under the Public Health Act.	123
Re-inspections under the Housing Act.	26
Re-inspections under the Public Health Act.	400
Verminous premises, primary inspections.	18
Verminous premises, re-inspections.	5
Overcrowding, primary inspections.	1
Overcrowding, re-inspections.	2
Visits re Infectious Disease.	2
Visits re Disinfections.	11

Other Inspections under the Public Health Act, etc.

Drains inspected.	346
Drains tested.	95
Ditches and streams.	19
Cesspools, etc.	6
Public conveniences.	5
Visits re water supply.	37
Piggeries and stables.	5
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance.	1
Places of entertainment.	3
Schools.	3
Tents, vans and sheds.	22
Offensive trades.	1

Other Visits.

Shops Act inspections	16
Factories - mechanical.	37
Factories - non-mechanical.	5
Workplaces.	17
Rodent Control.	113
Smoke observations.	5
Visits to Council properties.	1,800
Visits re re-housing.	205
Miscellaneous.	107
Rag Flock premises.	3
Pet Shops.	2

Food Premises.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Depot.	908
Butchers' Shops.	52
Bakchouses.	8
Cafes and restaurants.	18
Licensed premises.	25
Ice cream premises.	17
Grocers.	93
Greengrocers.	147
Fried Fish Shops.	10
Fresh Fish Shops.	53
Cowsheds and Dairies.	9
Other food premises.	37

As a result of inspections made, formal and informal notices were served where necessary :-

	Verbal.		Written.		Statutory.		Totals.	
	Ser:	Comp:	Ser:	Comp:	Ser:	Comp:	Ser:	Comp:
Housing Acts.	Nil.	Nil.	1	1	Nil.	Nil.	1	1
P.H. Acts.	20	16	15	19	2	2	37	37
Factories.	Nil.	Nil.	1	1	Nil.	Nil.	1	1
Rodent Control.	3	3	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	3	3

The following improvements have been carried out and contraventions remedied :-

Drainage.

Sewers and drains cleansed and repaired.	67
Drains relaid.	15
New drains provided.	30
Drains reconstructed.	5
Drains ventilated.	2
Inspection chambers repaired.	1
Inspection chambers - new provided.	25
Additional W.C.s provided.	14
W. C. pans renewed.	3
Obsolete pans replaced.	10
W. C. provided with flushing arrangements..	7
Privies and earth closets abolished.	2
Apartments repaired.	9
Additional sinks provided.	12
Waste pipes repaired or renewed.	1
New cesspools constructed.	3
Urinals repaired and provided.	1
Public houses - sanitary accommodation repaired or improved.	2

Dwelling Houses, etc.

Rooms disinfected.	11
Water supply reinstated.	2
Water supply improved.	4
Dustbins provided.	6
Yards drained and paved.	7
Roofs repaired.	8
Gutters and R. / P.s repaired.	8
D.P.C.s provided.	1
Damp walls remedied.	9
External walls pointed and rendered.	11
Chimney stacks reheaded and pointed.	5
Ladders new or repaired.	2
Stairs repaired.	4
Firegrates repaired or renewed.	12
Washing coppers provided or repaired.	3
Windows repaired or renewed.	9
Walls and ceilings repaired.	19
Walls and ceilings redecorated.	17
Floors repaired.	9
Vermin eradicated.	3
Offensive accumulations removed.	1
Shop sanitation made satisfactory.	5

Food Premises.

Butchers' Shops - contraventions remedied.	3
Bakehouses cleansed or repaired.	1
Grocers cleansed or repaired.	4
Grocers - reconditioned and improved.	1
Other food premises cleansed or repaired.	1

Other Premises.

Tents and vans removed or vacated.	3
Rat proofing.	3

HOUSING.

The number of houses erected by the Council during the year and becoming available for allocation was 33. In addition 7 pre-war and 3 post-war houses became vacant and were allocated.

The preliminary works on the Galley Hill Estate being completed, considerable progress was made during the year in the erection of houses as is shown above.

The two bedroomed houses, whilst offering excellent accommodation for small families, do give rise to the problem of mixed sexes which is likely to arise in the growth of families and the later provision of three bedroomed houses of comparable floor space does, I think, provide a house which is a better re-housing unit.

The question of housing provision for the aged was considered during the year. There is still however, a tendency to consider the erection of a colony of such dwellings. I am satisfied that such accommodation should undoubtedly be intermingled with the houses of younger persons. I can visualise a collection of old peoples' dwellings erected apart from the general housing schemes developing the atmosphere now familiar in Alms Houses.

11 licences were granted during the year for private development. The easing of restrictions for the erection of private houses has enabled the Council to satisfy the needs of those wishing to build owner-occupied houses.

The maintenance of the Councils' houses continues to be carried out economically. Whilst there has been inevitably rising costs, the standard of maintenance has been ensured consistent with economy.

The general standard of house cleanliness has, I think, perhaps dropped for the main reason that in recent years and particularly the year under review, it has been found necessary to re-house families who must be considered far from house proud and who, for that reason, could never hope to be accepted as tenants by a private landlord. The practice of periodic inspection of such families continues to be carried out. Such families are an obvious and difficult problem.

I have referred in previous years to the problem of worn out houses, which during the current year, has not improved though I hope that the time is not far distant when a realistic slum clearance programme may be put in hand, particularly as the normal re-housing programme appears to be getting the problem of the inadequately housed in hand.

A Closing Order in respect of part of a dwelling was rescinded and an undertaking from the owner not to re-let the whole of the premises when it became vacant upon the re-housing of its occupier, and to carry out certain work to make it suitable for use as a workshop was accepted. A Closing Order in respect of part of a building which was considered by the Council to be unfit was made.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year.

(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts.	125
	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	551
(b)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under subheading (a) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	2
(c)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	2
(d)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-headings) found not to be in all respects, reasonably fit for habitation.	35

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.	35
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Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.	
	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	Nil.
	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:	
	(i) By owners.	Nil.
	(ii) By local authority in default of owners.	Nil.
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
	(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	2
	(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:	
	(a) By owners.	2
	(b) By local authority in default of owners.	Nil.
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.	
	(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	Nil.
	(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	Nil.
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.	
	(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	1
	(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit.	Nil.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat Inspection.

Meat inspection continued to be one of my major duties. The number of animals slaughtered again rose, in particular sheep and pigs. Facilities at Church Lane continue to provide fairly reasonable accommodation in spite of its limitations. Minor improvements have again been effected.

The number of pigs slaughtered at the Northgate Slaughterhouse having increased during the past five years $4\frac{1}{2}$ times, it became evident that there was a need for improved facilities. Accordingly the Ministry of Food were contacted and as a result of some prolonged negotiations it was arranged that the owner of the Slaughterhouse should carry out certain improvements. The facilities to be provided were improved and additional lairage, the conversion of adjoining buildings into a hanging room and the avoidance as far as possible of the necessity of cooling pigs in the actual Slaughterhouse. The work to be carried out would, it was anticipated, provide facilities for the slaughter of 50 or more pigs daily with a certain minimum of 200 weekly. Facilities under this scheme would therefore provide accommodation for the slaughter of some 10,000 to 12,000 pigs annually. At the end of the year the order for the work had been placed but it had not been commenced.

The weight of meat condemned during the year amounted to 22 tons, 14 cwts., 22 lbs. - a decrease of slightly under three tons over last year.

The principal reasons for condemnation are stated hereunder :-

<u>BEASTS.</u>		<u>LBS.</u>
9 Beasts and all organs.	- Generalised Tuberculosis.	5,719
4 Beasts and all organs.	- Tubercular Peritonitis, Dropsy and Emaciation.	2,083
1 Beast and all organs.	- Tuberculosis and Malignant Neoplasms.	650
3 Beasts and all organs.	- Emaciation.	811
2 Beasts and all organs.	- Moribund.	1,173
4 Beasts and all organs.	- Septic Metritis, Traumatic Peritonitis, Septicaemia and Sepsaemia.	3,131
2 Beasts and all organs.	- Johne's Disease.	754
2 Beasts and all organs.	- Dropsy.	1,378
6 Beasts Forequarters and all organs	- Tuberculosis.	880
Beef.	- Contaminated by dirt in Cold Store.	54
Beef and Beasts' Organs.	- Various conditions and Diseases.	15,590

CALVES.

4 Calves and all organs.	- Joint ill.	218
3 Calves and all organs.	- Congenital Tuberculosis.	446
1 Calf and all organs.	- Pyaemia.	156
1 Calf and all organs.	- Emaciation.	32
V eal and Calves' Organs.	- Other reasons.	35

PIGS.

8 Pigs and all organs.	- Generalised Tuberculosis.	1,784
4 Pigs and all organs.	- Swine Erysipelas.	582
7 Pigs and all organs.	- Swine Fever.	263
6 Pigs and all organs.	- Moribund.	1,015

<u>PIGS. (Continued.)</u>			<u>LBS.</u>
31 Pigs and all organs.	- Various Febrile Conditions.		1,901
1 Pig and all organs.	- Lymphadenitis.		109
7 Pigs and all organs.	- Pyaemia, Septicaemia, and other Septic Conditions.		1,026
2 Pigs and all organs.	- Emaciation, Emaciation and Dropsy.		540
1 Pig and all organs.	- Multiple Haemorrhages.		91
5 Pigs and all organs.	- Pneumonia, Nephritis, Peritonitis and Dropsy.		392
1 Pig and all organs.	- Jaundice.		78
1 Pig and all organs.	- Decomposition.		148
Pork and Pigs' Organs.	- Various conditions and diseases.		5,016

<u>SHEEP.</u>			
15 Sheep and all organs.	- Septic Metritis and other conditions associated with lambing.		1,118
19 Sheep and all organs.	- Emaciation.		850
19 Sheep and all organs.	- Dropsy or Fever.		1,140
8 Sheep and all organs.	- Moribund.		403
2 Sheep and all organs.	- Gangrene and Emaciation.		35
1 Sheep and all organs.	- Pyaemia and Emaciation.		45
1 Sheep and all organs.	- Fevered.		35
2 Sheep and all organs.	- Septic Pneumonia and Pyaemia.		129
1 Sheep and all organs.	- Caseous Lymphadenitis.		106
1 Sheep and all organs.	- Tainted by paraffin.		54
Mutton and Sheep Organs, etc.,	- Other Reasons.		904

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed.	1,095	262	3,399	1,805
Number inspected.	1,095	262	3,399	1,805
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis.</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	13	6	68	72
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned,	403	1	309	378
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	38.00	2.07	11.09	24.70
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	14	3	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	183	1	-	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	16.71	1.47	-	6.50

In addition I have condemned 8 lbs. Corned Beef - Unsound.

Other Foods.

It has again not been possible to devote the time to the inspection of other food premises that is desirable. Whilst the general standard of cleanliness remains fairly high, there is undoubtedly a need for more regular inspection of food premises than is possible at the moment.

It was however found necessary to take proceedings against the Manager of a butcher's shop and his Company for a number of offences in relation to the exposure of unsound food, to the cleanliness of the premises and the fittings therein and the defective condition of the structure. The manager pleaded not guilty to all charges preferred against him. Three charges relating to unsound food were dismissed. Other charges were found proved. He was conditionally discharged. The three unsound food charges made against the Company were withdrawn. They did however plead guilty to those remaining and were fined a total of £9/10/0d.

One or two premises have been extensively reconditioned and now provide excellent facilities. The occupier of these premises in each case sought my advice before any work was carried out and certain recommendations were made. I suggest any food trader must of necessity adopt this practice if he proposes to carry out any alterations and improvements. It is frequently possible to incorporate details which are highly desirable and which in the normal way might well be required at a later date on routine inspections being carried out.

The undermentioned foods, other than fresh meat, have been examined and found to be unfit for food :-

13 tins evaporated or condensed milk.	Blown or damaged.
68 tins meat, soup or fish.	Blown, unsound or defective tinning.
194 tins fruit, vegetables or jam.	Blown, damaged or fermented.
3 jars paste.	Unsound.
56 lbs. sugar.	Damaged by rats.
18 lbs. butter.	Damaged by rats.
20 lbs. margarine.	Damaged by rats.
17 lbs. lard.	Damaged by rats.
36 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. cheese.	Damaged by rats or unsound.
30 lbs. cooking fat.	Damaged by rats.
130 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. bacon and ham.	Damaged by rats, flyblown or unsound.
131 lbs. coconut cakes.	Fermented and rancid.
266 lbs. sausage rusk.	Contaminated by mice.

Milk Supply.

The following were registered in the district at 1.1.52 :-

Distributors	2
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Supplementary licences issued in respect of designated milk at 1.1.52 were :-

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	2
Pasteurised	2
Sterilised	1

Samples of milk have been taken as follows :-

<u>Tuberculin Tested.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
6	5	1
<u>Pasteurised.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
8	7	1

Four other samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for examination. The maximum temperature of storage exceeded 65°F.

Raw Milks.

Three samples were taken from herds for biological examination. All three proved to be negative.

Ice Cream.

The number of manufacturers of ice cream remains at 3, of whom 1, registered for cold mix only, did not produce during the year. The remaining two premises, one of which is cold mix, were frequently inspected during the season of production.

There are now 20 premises registered for the storage and sale only and 5 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were grouped as follows :-

Provisional Grade 1	4
Provisional Grade 2	1
Provisional Grade 3	0
Provisional Grade 4	0

WATER SUPPLY.

The majority of the premises within the Urban District are supplied with water in pipes from the Urban District Council undertaking. The sources of water are from a spring and deep well to the west of Sleaford, from which it is pumped to reservoirs nearby. A low level reservoir serves the low-lying parts of the town and two water-towers, interconnected, serve the higher portions. The amount of water available throughout the year has proved adequate and of good quality, though hardness is exceptionally high.

Supplies other than from the public supply are as follows :-

- 18 premises at Quarrington are supplied from a private estate supply - the source being from a deep bore.
- 15 premises are supplied from deep wells or bores.
- 8 premises are supplied from shallow wells.
- 4 premises are supplied from sources other than the above.

Details of the results of samples taken during the year follow :-

Date of Sample.	PER MILLION PARTS.					
	28th January 1952.		12th July 1952.		1st November 1952.	
	Low Level R'voir.	High Level R'voir.	Low Level R'voir.	High Level R'voir.	Low Level R'voir.	High Level R'voir.
Total Solids dried at 180°C.	450.00	450.00	410.00	390.00	440.00	430.00
Suspended Matter.	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Chlorides as Chlorine.	24.90	21.30	24.90	24.90	24.85	24.85
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate.	2.20	3.00	1.60	1.60	3.20	2.40
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrite.	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Free and saline Ammonia.	0.028	0.016	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004
Albuminoid Ammonia.	0.036	0.016	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004
Temporary Hardness.	215.00	210.00	215.00	215.00	205.00	205.00
Permanent Hardness.	140.00	140.00	113.00	80.00	133.00	141.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. @ 80°F. from M/80 KMnO4.	0.080	0.040	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.12
pH value.	7.20	7.20	7.10	7.30	7.10	7.30
Appearance.	None	clear and	bright in	all	clear and	bright in all
Odour.	Normal	None	None	None	None	None
Taste and Colour.	Absent	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Heavy Metals.	0.025	0.015	0.035	0.025	0.035	0.035
Free Chlorine.	1	0	0	81	1	0
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C. in 72 hrs.	0	0	1	0	0	1
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 24 hrs.	0	0	1	0	1	1
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C. in 48 hrs.	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent.
Bacillus Coli (Presumptive) per 100 mls.						

Date of Sample.

Total Solids dried at 180°C.

Suspended Matter.

Chlorides as Chlorine.

Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate.

Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrite.

Free and saline Ammonia.

Albuminoid Ammonia.

Temporary Hardness.

Permanent Hardness.

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. @ 80°F. from M/80 KMnO4.

pH value.

Appearance.

Odour.

Taste and Colour.

Heavy Metals.

Free Chlorine.

No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C. in 72 hrs.

No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 24 hrs.

No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 48 hrs.

Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37°C. in 48 hrs.

Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C. in 48 hrs.

Bacillus Coli (Presumptive) per 100 mls.

Other Sources.

Royal Oak Cottage, East Road.	(1) Satisfactory. (2) Unsatisfactory.
New Farm, Drove Lane.	Satisfactory.
Quarrington - Estate Supply.	Class 1. (Highly satisfactory.)
Nunley's Garage.	(1) Very unsatisfactory. (2) Unsatisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No additions were made to the sewerage system during the year.

The water carriage system of the town is partially combined and partially separate, disposal being by land irrigation at the east end of the town. The disposal continued during the year to be exceedingly unsatisfactory.

The contractors for the new sewerage scheme did however commence work during the year.

The condition of the unsatisfactory discharge from the Quarrington sewer into the open dyke adjoining Manor House Farm has been raised during the year. The condition of the field over which this dyke eventually discharges is particularly in a state of nuisance, a large area being covered with sludge. Whilst no danger to the Quarrington water supply is envisaged, the fact that the bore is under 100 yards away should be borne in mind. Fourteen premises are connected to this sewer, in five cases after treatment in septic tanks.

29 premises in the Council's area discharge sink waste water untreated into dykes.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse collection and disposal is under the direction of the Surveyor. Collection continues to be once weekly and proceeds without difficulty.

The controlled tip off East Road has now operated a full year and deals adequately with the refuse of the town.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

The two licensed sites in the area on which vans may be stationed continue to be used regularly and are generally conducted without nuisance.

A licence to station a van at East Road was granted during this year, the occupier having made satisfactory provision for drainage, etc., on the site.

The question of the provision of a caravan site by the Council was considered. A number of sites were inspected but difficulties were met with in each case. The project has, for the time being, been held over.

Action was taken against the owner and occupier of a van stationed in Marcham Lane, which was occupied contrary to the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The van was vacated without the necessity of taking statutory action.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Casual observations on the few chimneys from factories and business premises have been made during the year but no action with regard to smoke nuisances has been necessary.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Two houses were found to be infested with vermin and were successfully treated.

The incidence of infestation generally continues to be extremely small.

RODENT CONTROL.

The rodent control service has continued to function very satisfactorily during the year.

Information received of infestations and others found during routine inspections have fully employed the Rodent Operator during the time available for work.

The Operator made 1,317 visits and in the course of those, only two major infestations were discovered. 175 other premises were found to harbour rats but were all classified as minor infestations.

The routine treatment of the Councils' sewers has again been completed and indicates that the whole system is reasonably free from infestation.

The annual treatment of the river banks was carried out. There was found during the year considerable decrease in the rat population. The river is, however, undoubtedly a problem and many infestations almost certainly arise from this source.

Proceedings were taken under Section 3 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, against the manager of a local butcher's shop and also against the Company for failure to notify the presence of mice in substantial numbers. The manager pleaded not guilty. The charge was however found proved and he was conditionally discharged. The firm subsequently pleaded guilty and were fined 10/-d.

During the year Mr. B. Wood, Rodent Control Operator, resigned and Mr. W. Bristow was appointed.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 - 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	11	5	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	55	37	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.	-	--	-	-
Total.	66	42	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases where defects were found.			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred.		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences.					
(a) Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offenses against the Act (not including offenses relating to Outwork.)	1	1	-	-	-
Total.	2	2	-	-	-